



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #18, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

JULY 3, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

10.8 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
U.N. – June 2014

6.4 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
U.N. – June 2014

2.9 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – May 2014

1,120,518

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – June 2014

789,678

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – June 2014

605,270

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – June 2014

225,475

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – June 2014

137,916

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – June 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.N. reports an estimated 10.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria.
- The Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) intensifies attacks in southern Syria, resulting in continued access and insecurity constraints for humanitarian organizations.
- Insecurity and bureaucratic procedures prevent delivery of U.N. food assistance to Al Hasakah Governorate in June.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FY 2012 – FY 2014

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$437,297,611
USAID/FFP ²	\$706,597,940
State/PRM ³	\$885,958,549

\$ 2,029,854,100

TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In a June 26 briefing to the U.N. Security Council, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos declared that growing humanitarian needs among 10.8 million people in Syria—a 16 percent increase from previous estimates of 9.3 million people in need, including 4.7 million people in U.N.-identified hard-to-reach areas—are outpacing international humanitarian response efforts. Attacks on civilian infrastructure—such as public water systems—have increased in recent weeks, while insecurity, active conflict, and burdensome bureaucratic procedures continue to impede humanitarian access. Due to access constraints and fighting among armed actors, the U.N. provided food assistance to only 1 percent—approximately 2,470—of the 241,000 people living in areas designated by the U.N. as besieged, since May 20.
- Since June 29, SARG forces have continued barrel bomb aerial attacks in the southern governorates of Dar'a and Rif Damascus, report relief organizations. Ongoing violence has hampered humanitarian access to several villages in conflict-affected areas of Dar'a since mid-May due to persistent insecurity. Relief organizations continue to monitor the security situation in southern Syria and identify opportunities to access populations in need.
- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) was unable to reach Al Hasakah Governorate with critical food assistance in June due to intense fighting among armed actors in the governorate and surrounding areas, constraints resulting from blocked access roads and border closures.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has taken control of the outskirts of the city of Dayr az Zawr, Dayr az Zawr Governorate, with clashes between ISIL and moderate opposition forces occurring to the north and northeast of the city, while SARG forces have encircled the city from the south and west, according to international media reports. Roads into Dayr az Zawr are inaccessible due to fighting, limiting the delivery of emergency relief and commercial supplies, the U.N. reports. The U.N. and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) report deteriorating humanitarian conditions within Dayr az Zawr and significant price increases for food and basic supplies. The fighting has resulted in displacement from the eastern bank of the Euphrates River to opposition-controlled western areas of the city. Relief organizations report up to 150,000 newly displaced people residing with host community members or in collective shelters.
 - Following a June 22 ceasefire agreement signed between SARG forces and other armed groups, the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is calling for local authorities to allow the immediate resumption of humanitarian activities in the besieged Yarmouk neighborhood, located near Syria's capital city of Damascus. UNRWA's most recent food and hygiene kit distribution in Yarmouk took place on May 23 and June 7, respectively. The agreement calls for heavy weaponry removal, demolition of barricades, the establishment of an internal security force, and the restoration of basic services.
 - UNHCR announced the opening of a field office and warehouse in the city of As Suwayda', As Suwayda' Governorate, located near the southwestern Syria–Jordan border, on June 19, intended to improve the agency's access to conflict-affected populations in southern Syria. During the week of June 16, UNHCR transported relief supplies including 25,000 blankets, 10,000 sleeping mats, and 2,500 kitchen sets to the As Suwayda' warehouse from a warehouse located in Amman, Jordan, and plans to distribute the supplies to vulnerable IDPs residing in As Suwayda' and Dar'a governorates. UNHCR has six additional offices located in Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Damascus, Homs, Tartus, and Qamishli governorates.
 - USG partners are working through all available channels to reach conflict-affected people in opposition-held, SARG-controlled, and contested areas of Syria. Many partners are working through local Syrian networks and organizations to deliver medical care, relief supplies, and food to hard-to-access communities. Although hampered by conflict and insecurity, USG partners have provided humanitarian assistance to 4.7 million people across Syria's 14 governorates since March 2011.
-

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Fighting in Al Hasakah and neighboring governorates, as well as border closures and blocked access routes from inside Syria, prevented the delivery of WFP food assistance to Al Hasakah during the month of June, the agency reported. WFP had targeted approximately 227,000 people in the governorate for food assistance. Given the challenges reaching Al Hasakah, WFP is exploring alternative access routes, including from Turkey through the Qamishli–Nusaybin crossing point, although access through this route remains irregular and unpredictable. WFP anticipates further strain on humanitarian conditions in Al Hasakah's urban centers—where IDPs from neighboring governorates are concentrated—due to an expected increase in IDPs fleeing aerial bombardment of southern Al Hasakah rural villages.
- Despite ongoing access challenges, WFP delivered food assistance to nearly 3.3 million people across all 14 governorates in May, reaching more than 30 of the 262 U.N.-identified locations considered hard-to-reach. The deliveries included food and nutrition assistance—benefiting more than 348,000 people—and relief commodities—benefiting an estimated 268,000 people—from WFP, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), and UNRWA.
- The USG continues to support partners to deliver food assistance in areas inaccessible to WFP. As of June 28, a USG partner had delivered an estimated 9,900 metric tons (MT) of flour to bakeries in southern Syria since June 2013. In May, USG-funded NGOs alone reached more than 120,000 people in northern Syria with one-month food rations and more than 265,000 people with bread and flour.

HEALTH

- Since December 2013, the SARG Ministry of Health (MoH), the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), and UNICEF have conducted monthly polio immunization rounds, with the May campaign reaching more than 2.8 million children less than five years of age across Syria's 14 governorates. With assistance from the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and local organizations, vaccinators reached previously inaccessible areas, including an estimated 85,000 children in hard-to-reach areas of Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Damascus, Dar'a, and Rif Damascus governorates.
 - The SARG MoH confirmed 160 cases of measles in Syria's Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqa, Hamah, Homs, Idlib, and Latakia governorates, according to the U.N. With support from UNICEF and WHO, the MoH will lead a measles vaccination campaign in high-risk areas aiming to reach nearly 1 million children at health centers and in shelters.
 - With USG support, NGOs are also coordinating with the Measles Joint Task Force—organized by the Syrian Interim Government MoH and the Syrian Coalition's Assistance Coordination Unit—local councils, and others in northern Syria to combat the spread of measles in primarily opposition-held areas and IDP camps. Vaccination efforts will target approximately 1.3 million children five years of age and under across seven northern governorates, according to relief organizations.
 - To date in 2014, USG supported NGOs have reached 1.9 million conflict-affected people in Syria with health assistance, including emergency, primary, and maternal health care; polio immunizations; and measles vaccinations. In FY 2014, the USG has provided more than \$81 million in support to partners for health-related activities inside Syria, and a total of \$178 million for health assistance since March 2011.
-

WASH

- According to UNICEF, exceptionally low levels of rainfall in recent months are creating widespread water shortages and placing more than 4 million people in Syria at elevated risk of disease. In response, between May 20 and June 12, UNICEF distributed hygiene kits, water containers, and water purification tablets to expand access to safe drinking water and improve sanitation for 21,000 people in Al Hasakah Governorate, including families located in U.N.-identified hard-to-reach areas. In northern Idlib Governorate, UNICEF and SARC distributed soap, water purification tablets, and other water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies to 16,500 people. UNICEF also supported hygiene promotion activities for more than 2,200 people and installed water tanks to support access to safe drinking water for nearly 15,000 people in Al Waer, a U.N.-identified hard-to-reach neighborhood in the city of Homs, Homs Governorate.
 - An NGO, supported by the USG, is working to expand access to safe drinking water and improve sanitation services for IDPs and other conflict-affected people in Damascus, Dar'a, Dayr az Zawr, Hamah, and Rif Damascus governorates. Between May 6 and June 26, the NGO completed distributions of hygiene kits, water containers, and water purification tablets to approximately 20,000 vulnerable families in central and southern Syria. In northern Syria, the partner delivered 9,300 hygiene kits to conflict-affected populations from June 9 to 23 in Aleppo Governorate.
 - A USG-supported NGO recently delivered approximately 2,000 hygiene kits and 2,000 emergency relief commodity kits for conflict-affected people in the city of Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, in anticipation of a lack of access due to a possible siege. As access and security permit, the partner is also working to ensure that supported health facilities in the city have sufficient medical supplies.
-

REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Egypt

- On June 4, UNHCR met with local officials and community members in Egypt's city of Hurgada, Red Sea Governorate, to identify vulnerable refugees, assess refugee needs, and raise refugee registration and verification awareness, as well as discuss services available to the Syrian community. While in Hurgada, UNHCR also conducted a training for members of the community-based protection network—a tool that provides refugees with the opportunity to participate in identifying and addressing protection needs.

- In June, an international NGO, along with a local Egyptian NGO, organized anemia screenings and established a referral system with a local health clinic for Syrian refugee children living in the Ard al-Lewa and Faysal districts in the Greater Cairo metropolitan areas.

Iraq

- ISIL seized the Al Qaim border crossing in Iraq, one of three border crossings on the Iraq–Syria border, on June 21, leading to a June 24 SARG airstrike attack on the border town of Al Qaim, Iraq. The airstrike resulted in more than 15 deaths and led nearly 800 Syrian refugees residing in nearby Al Obaidi refugee camp to return to Syria, with other refugees seeking shelter in the nearby community. The Al Obaidi refugee camp hosted approximately 1,500 Syrian refugees prior to the SARG attack; an estimated 750 refugees remain in the camp as of June 28, with reports of refugee movements to and from Syria.

Jordan

- On June 24, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (GHKJ) MoH, announced the completion of a joint polio immunization and awareness campaign for Jordanian and Syrian children. The USG supported IOM’s participation in the campaign, which vaccinated more than 175,000 children against polio in the first three days.
- From June 8 to 11, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, and GHKJ MoH conducted the first polio sub-national immunization campaign targeting Syrian refugee children less than five years of age in vulnerable host community areas and all children less than five-years old residing in refugee camps.
- During May, the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) supported reproductive health care services—including birthing support, family planning, and pre- and post-natal care—for nearly 11,000 Syrian women and girls in Jordan. More than 3,400 additional Syrian refugees were reached through a reproductive health awareness campaign, which included individual and group awareness-raising sessions on breastfeeding, family planning methods, and detecting pregnancy-related health risks. UNFPA also supported the safe delivery of approximately 200 infants in Za’atri refugee camp alone.

Lebanon

- In coordination with the Government of Lebanon Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF conducted an assessment of nearly 120 primary health clinics in Lebanon to identify constraints for Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities seeking to access adequate health care services, as well as opportunities to improve the quality of health care for vulnerable populations. In response to acute identified needs at assessed health care facilities, UNICEF delivered critical medicines and medical supplies to 33 primary health care clinics. To date in 2014, UNICEF has provided medical supplies and equipment, as well as human resource support, for more than 60 clinics across Lebanon.
- UNHCR plans to increase the use of electronic vouchers to provide cash assistance for the most vulnerable Syrian refugee populations in Lebanon, allowing for efficient cash delivery to refugees that live in more than 1,700 locations. UNHCR will also shift to an unconditional cash assistance strategy, allowing the electronic voucher to supplement rather than replace other refugee support programs, such as education, food, health, and protection services.

Turkey

- Charitable organizations in Turkey have launched a Ramadan campaign to assist Syrians refugees residing in southern Turkey’s Hatay Province. The organizations plan to distribute food packages throughout Ramadan to an estimated 10,000 Syrian families, providing food for sahur and iftar meals at the start and end of the daily fast, in addition to providing meal tickets for another 2,000 Syrian families. The Government of Turkey (GoT) Presidency of Religious Affairs—GoT’s religious authority—has also initiated Ramadan aid. GoT officials throughout Turkey will determine the number of Syrians refugees in need and coordinate aid efforts with local businesses.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- Belgium, Ireland, Switzerland, and Uruguay pledged new resettlement offers for Syrian refugees while attending a high-level resettlement conference in Belgium on June 27, reports UNHCR. Forty-two countries attended the meeting, during which attendees announced 565 new places for resettlement. UNHCR has asked countries to provide 30,000 resettlement and humanitarian admissions places for Syrian refugees in 2013 and 2014. The new announcements raise the number of offered places since mid-2013 to more than 34,700. Although 22 countries have offered places for Syrian refugees to be resettled, the majority of offers to date have come from European states, with Germany having offered more than one-half the global total.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, President Bashar al-Asad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Asad began responding to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate.
- A U.N. Security Council-endorsed peace plan—accepted by the SARG on March 26, 2012—called for a ceasefire, unrestricted humanitarian access, and the withdrawal of military personnel from populated areas. The ceasefire never took full effect as clashes between SARG and opposition forces, as well as SARG attacks on demonstrators and populated areas, continued.
- On August 16, 2012, the U.N. elected not to renew the mandate of the U.N. Supervision Mission in Syria, which had suspended operations on June 16 due to increasing levels of violence throughout the country. All U.N. military observers departed Syria in late August 2012.
- At a November 2012 meeting in Doha, Qatar, Syrian opposition factions formed an umbrella organization—the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, also known as the Syrian Coalition (SC). The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. On March 19, 2013, the SC established the Syrian Interim Government, which opposes the SARG and is based in decentralized locations throughout opposition-held areas of Syria.
- Shortly after its formation, the SC established the ACU to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. USG, other donors, and NGO representatives meet with the ACU on a regular basis to share information regarding identified needs, current and planned assistance, and challenges to providing aid.
- The U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 2139 on February 22, pressing the SARG and other armed actors to allow unfettered humanitarian access for relief aid workers in Syria. The resolution identified priority areas for emergency relief aid, and the U.N. is releasing monthly reports tracking progress on implementing the resolution's objectives and access gains, as well as persistent access impediments. As of June 16, ERC Amos reported that the resolution had made minimal impact and significant obstacles to access remain.
- Syria hosts approximately 540,000 Palestinian refugees, with more than 80 percent living in and around Damascus. Intense fighting in and around Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that almost all of the 540,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria are directly affected by the conflict and 270,000 are displaced inside the country. Some 80,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria have fled to neighboring countries. Syria also hosts an estimated 39,500 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA ²			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000

NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$122,303,574
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$22,000,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Syria	\$2,500,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,500,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$13,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs	Syria	\$1,507,856
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$165,311,430
USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$35,898,819
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$99,845,900
WFP	Regional EMOP	Egypt	\$8,000,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Iraq	\$10,000,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan	\$44,750,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Lebanon	\$55,750,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Turkey	\$22,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$276,244,719
STATE/PRM³			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Capacity Building, Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH,	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$31,000,000
IOM	Border Transport, Health, Relief Commodities	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$4,600,000
NGO Partners	Education, Health, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Support, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq	\$31,674,328
UNFPA	Capacity Building, Mental Health, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq	\$1,700,000
UNHCR	Camp Management, Education, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt, Regional	\$104,700,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Protection, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$48,700,000
UNRWA	Education, Food, Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$28,100,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$250,874,328
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2014			\$692,430,477

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$252,290,317
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$383,353,221
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$582,724,280
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013	\$1,218,367,818

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$19,695,864
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$47,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$52,359,941
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012	\$119,055,805

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014	\$2,029,854,100
--	------------------------

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Approximately \$12.8 million in funding was committed in FY 2012 and obligated in FY 2013.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 19, 2014.

³ Total includes \$10 million announced in FY 2013 for obligation by State/PRM in FY 2014.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- The USG encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.